



Washington, D. C. 20505

15 December 1976

Dear Brent:

When I returned from California, I was pleased to read your letter of 13 December concerning the outstanding performance of Robert Gates. He certainly has had a unique opportunity with the NSC and we, of course, are pleased that he turned in such a fine performance. I am told that Bob has accepted an assignment in the immediate office of our Deputy Director for Intelligence where he will have important responsibilities to oversee the substantive European scene. He is quite pleased with this assignment and I know his experience with you will stand him in good stead for the future.

Sincerely,

George Bush

The Honorable Brent Scowcroft  
Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 13, 1976

Dear George:

It is a very great pleasure for me to call to your personal attention, with my highest personal endorsement, the outstanding performance of Robert M. Gates who has served with the National Security Council's European staff since mid-1974.

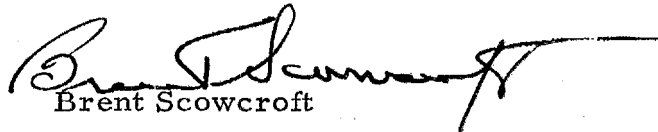
Bob's staff responsibilities have involved issues ranging across the breadth of USSR and Eastern and Western European affairs. Throughout his tour with the NSC, he has demonstrated extraordinary knowledge, analytical skill, initiative and sound judgment. In addition to the expected, demanding NSC staffing requirements -- the preparation of intelligence briefings, the staffing of operational papers, and the development of formal studies for consideration by the President and members of the National Security Council -- Bob has played an important role in contributing to the drafting of the substantive papers and the public statements prepared for the President's summit talks in Washington and abroad. Additionally, I sent Bob as the NSC staff representative on the White House advance parties preparing for the summits at Martinique, NATO Headquarters, Helsinki and the President's official visits to Western and Eastern Europe.

As a result of his NSC service, Bob Gates has a most valuable awareness of the intelligence consumer requirements of the NSC and the White House. With this background and experience, I am confident of his ability to make continuing important contributions to the intelligence community's services of vital importance to the national security interests of the United States. It is my sincere hope that his outstanding, proven abilities and his great promise will be recognized in his future assignments, and that he will be considered favorably for promotion at the earliest opportunity.

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Bob returns to the Central Intelligence Agency with my thanks  
and the President's appreciation for a job extremely well done.

Sincerely,

  
Brent Scowcroft

The Honorable George Bush  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

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3	D/DCI/IC				
4	S/MC				
5	DDS&T				
6	DDI	✓			
7	DDA				
8	DDO				
9	D/DCI/NID				
10	GC				
11	LC				
12	IG				
13	Compt				
14	D/Pers		✓		
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Remarks:

*Pls convey to Mr Gato*

Executive Secretary

Date

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*White House*